



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Department Issues Consent Order to Babcock, Inc.

Los Angeles --- The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced it has issued a Consent Order (Order) to Babcock, Inc., (Babcock) for violations of hazardous waste management laws at its facility located at 14930 East Alondra Boulevard in La Mirada.

The Order, signed on July 8, 2004, includes a penalty of \$27,840, of which \$22,840 is due within 30 days of the date on the Order. A copy of the Order formalizing the settlement is available on the DTSC website at http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Babcock/Babcock_ENF_CO.pdf.

Babcock is authorized to generate, handle and treat hazardous waste at this facility. Specifically, the facility treats hazardous metals and cyanide-bearing wastes generated onsite by electroplating operations.

The Order cites Babcock for the following violations:

- Failure to obtain DTSC authorization for storage of hazardous waste in containers from January 3, 2003 through March 19, 2003
- Exceeding the discharge limit established by the local sanitation district for the discharge of zinc-containing water from an authorized hazardous waste treatment system into the sewer
- Failure to prepare a certified tank system assessment signed by an independent, qualified professional engineer registered in the state of California for all hazardous waste tank systems operated at the facility attesting that the tanks have sufficient structural integrity and are acceptable for holding and treating hazardous waste

All violations stated in the Order have been corrected. In addition, Babcock may receive a \$5,000 reduction of its penalty if three of its employees obtain certificates of satisfactory completion of hazardous waste management courses at the California Compliance School (CCS). CCS provides students with "hands-on" instruction on how to comply with hazardous waste statutes and regulations. Babcock must submit the certificate to DTSC within 180 days of the effective date of this Order to receive the penalty reduction.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.